

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 FEA-02 EB-11 DRC-01 /047 W

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R 010813Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 964

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, PFOR, MARR, JA

SUBJECT: FUEL PROCUREMENT IN JAPAN FOR U.S. FORCES

REF: STATE 064001

1. ON MARCH 27, REPS FOR OKINAWA SEKIYU (45 PER CENT GULF INTEREST) AND GULF (JAPAN) CALLED ON POL/ MIL COUNSELLOR TO DISCUSS OKINAWA SEKIYU'S CONTRACT WITH U.S. FORCES FOR SUPPLY FOR JP-4. OKINAWA SEKIYU REPS HAD IMPRESSION THAT OKINAWA SEKIYU WAS ONLY COMPANY HOLDING VALID SUPPLY CONTACT FOR US FORCES IN JAPAN; ALL OTHER JAPANESE FUEL COMPANIES HAVING WITHDRAWN THEIR CONTRACTS. SEKIYU REPS URGED THIS DISTINCTION AS BASIS FOR NEW APPROACH BY EMBASSY TO GOJ. EMBASSY CONFIRMED, HOWEVER, FROM COMUSJAPAN THAT MANY OTHER JAPANESE SUPPLIERS OF FUEL TO US FORCES JAPAN ALSO CONTINUED TO HAVE SUPPLY CONTACTS. SEKIYU REPS CONCEDED THEIR INFORMATION HAD BEEN FAULTY AND REQUESTED EMBASSY GUIDANCE.

2. POL/MIL COUNSELLOR POINTED OUT THAT IT OUR INTENTION TO APPROACH GOJ PERIODICALLY RESPECTING FUEL SUPPLY PROBLEM AND THAT EMBASSY INTENDED DOING SO AGAIN IN EARLY APRIL. IN MEANTIME, WE OFFERED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN HELPING PERSUADE MITI TO ALLOW OKINAWA SEKIYU TO EXPORT JP-4 CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN OKINAWA SEKIYU STORAGE TANKS ON OKINAWA. SEKIYU REPS SAID THAT THEY WOULD BEGIN APPROACH TO MITI INDEPENDENTLY AND CALL UPON EMBASSY IN CASE THEY CONSIDERED

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ADDITIONAL HELP NECESSARY.

3. UPON RECEIPT REFTTEL, POL/MIL COUNSELLOR CONTACTED CHIEF SECURITY DIVISION YAMASHITA TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ADDITIONAL DEMARCHE BY USG AT THIS POINT WOULD BE HELPFUL. YAMASHITA SUGGESTED THAT USG TAKE UP MATTER IN NEXT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 4, AND FONOFF WOULD USE OUR APPROACH IN THAT FORUM AS ADDITIONAL LEVERAGE ON MITI. EMBASSY CONTACTED COMUSJAPAN RESPECTING THIS APPROACH, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT US SIDE WOULD TAKE UP MATTER IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 4. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE NO REPEAT NO GOJ REACTION TO JOINT COMMITTEE APPROACH FOR AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS FOLLOWING JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.
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Message Attributes

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